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In This Issue

“Ancestry” on the Michigan eLibrary (MeL):

**Changes for
2004-2006**

3

Genealogical Publications: Suggestions for Creators and Publishers

6

Michigan History Magazine

8

October is Family History Month!

by Kris Rzepczynski, Michigan/Genealogy Coordinator, Library of Michigan

October is here again, which means that the Library of Michigan is busy celebrating Family History Month. The Library of Michigan and the Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL) have planned a month full of events and activities, all dedicated to researching family history and exploring the cultural heritage of our great state.

During the month of October, the Library of Michigan, the State Archives of Michigan and the Michigan Historical Museum will offer a total of more than 20 **FREE** programs on selected family history topics, including: subscription databases AncestryPlus and HeritageQuest, Michigan and Ontario vital records, ships' passenger lists, military records, city directories and much more. In addition, there will be a special family history-themed event each Saturday in October, Genealogy Appreciation Day and a Michigan Genealogical Council seminar (Oct. 16), the Michigan Oral History Association conference (Oct. 23) and Local History Day (Oct. 30).

For a detailed list of programs or additional information regarding the Library of Michigan's Family History Month activities, please visit HAL's Web site at <http://michigan.gov/hal> and click on the "October is Family History Month" tab along the left-hand side.

Most events are **FREE**, but pre-registration is strongly encouraged. Seating is limited, so register early! To register for events, please e-mail familyhistory@michigan.gov or call the Library of Michigan's Public Services Division at (517) 373-1300.

Whether it piques your personal or professional interest, come see us in October and learn more about how to explore your family's unique heritage. Help make this year's Family History Month another success!

*A Civil War program during
Family History Month 2003*



Dear Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to invite your library to participate in MeLCat — the statewide union catalog and resource-sharing system we are building for Michigan's libraries and residents. All types of libraries in Michigan are welcome to apply: public, academic, school and special libraries.

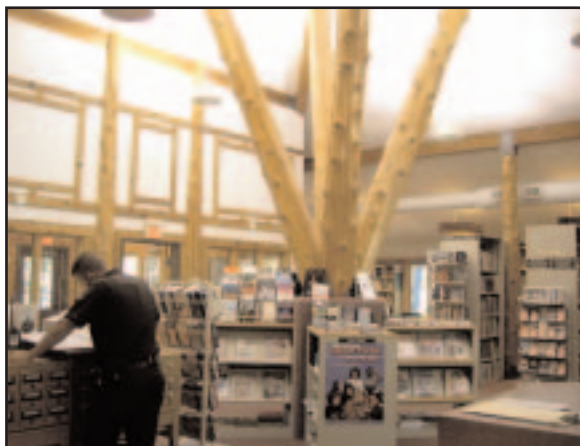
MeLCat and the new MeL gateway will be launched in January of 2005, with the InMICH libraries contributing to the first round. We plan to continue adding library collections every four months as MeLCat becomes a strong, inclusive catalog.

If you have questions about being part of MeLCat, or would like to apply, you will find information posted at www.michiganlibrary.org. You may also contact MeLCat staff at the Michigan Library Consortium by calling 1-800-530-9019.

MeLCat has been built through the extraordinary efforts of the Michigan library community, the committees and teams who have worked together to create the reality of a statewide resource for Michigan. Your participation is important, and the value of MeLCat will increase with each added library collection.

Thank you.

Christie



Beaver island Library



Keeping up with the new MeL – MeL eNews

*by Becky Cawley, MeL Administrator,
Library of Michigan*

The Library of Michigan and the Michigan Library Consortium are pleased to announce a new electronic newsletter called *MeL eNews*. This new forum for disseminating information about the Michigan eLibrary (MeL) will be distributed via an electronic discussion list. To sign up for the listserv, please go to <http://lanai.mlc.lib.mi.us/mailman/listinfo/mel-eneews>.

MeL eNews started publication July 2004. The first issue was sent to numerous current electronic lists, and subsequent issues will be sent to subscribers. Plan to find out the latest and greatest updates on MeLCat, the MeL database, the Making of Modern Michigan, the MeL Internet collection and the MeL gateway.

The newsletter will be sent on an irregular basis, as information warrants. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Donohue at 800-530-9019, ext. 42 or adonohue@mlcnet.org.

Upcoming Continuing Education Opportunities from the Library of Michigan

*by Deb Bacon-Ziegler, Continuing Education
Coordinator, Library of Michigan*

Hurry! There is still time to register for the October 22 and October 26 **E-Rate Train-the-Trainer Sessions**. Full details can be found at: http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17451_18668_18690-99277--,00.html.

Workshop for New Directors and Their Trustees

This informative workshop provides an overview of the services the Library of Michigan offers to libraries across Michigan. We strongly encourage all new directors and trustees to attend this essential workshop.

Presenters: Library of Michigan staff
Date: November 18
Time: 9a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Place: Library of Michigan, 702
W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing

For more information on this and other workshops offered by the Library of Michigan, please visit our Web site at

<http://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan>.

Save the Date! 2005 Loleta Fyan Rural Libraries Conference *Rural Libraries: Gateway to Information*

The 2005 Rural Libraries Conference will be May 2-4, 2005, at Boyne Highlands Resort in Harbor Springs, Michigan. The conference planning committee is hard at work putting together this premiere event for our small and rural libraries. Watch for full details on conference events, registration, award nominations and more in coming months!

Don't forget to check the **Statewide Workshops and Events Calendar**, your one-stop source for workshops, training events, conferences, and other library-land happenings! To get there, visit <http://www.michigan.gov/hal> and click on *For the Professional*. Next, click on *Libraries, Librarians and Media Specialists* and then the *Statewide Workshops and Events Calendar* link.

“Ancestry” on the Michigan eLibrary (MeL): Changes for 2004–2006

by Becky Cawley, MeL Administrator,
Library of Michigan

The genealogy publisher MyFamily is changing the vendor they use to provide library access to “Ancestry” from Gale to ProQuest. MeL will continue to provide access to this information resource as follows:

- This resource will continue to be available only in libraries, not remotely.
- This resource will continue to be available for unlimited simultaneous access.
- MeL users will have access to AncestryPlus, the Gale version of this collection, through July 30, 2005. **Nothing will change during this time period.**
- Beginning August 1, 2005, and continuing through September 30, 2006, MeL users will have access to MyFamily materials through ProQuest in a new product, Ancestry Library Edition.

Differences in content between AncestryPlus and Ancestry Library Edition:

Gale's AncestryPlus includes the following proprietary Gale content:

- Biography and Genealogy Master Index
- PILI Passenger and Immigration List Index
- 315 city directories

This content will not be included in Ancestry Library Edition. However, MeL users will have access to the Biography and Genealogy Master Index as part of the total MeL database collection.

ProQuest's Ancestry Library Edition will include the following new immigration information:

- New York Passenger Lists, 1851-1891
- Wuertemberg Emigration Index, late 18th century to 1900
- The Great Migration Index, 1620-1633
- San Francisco Passenger Lists
- New York Petitions for Naturalization, 1792 - 1906



The Great Lakes Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists tours the Library of Michigan.

Library of Michigan Hosts National Association of Professional Genealogists

In August Carole Callard, Library of Michigan genealogy specialist and Association of Professional Genealogists (APG) member, hosted and toured 17 members of the Great Lakes Chapter of the APG through the Library of Michigan. The chapter is made up of members from the states of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Kentucky. They encourage visits to large genealogical collections in order to know the premier genealogy sites, services and sources in the Great Lakes area. The group had previously visited the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and the Ohio Genealogical Society Library in Mansfield, Ohio.



Colonial Michilimackinac in Mackinaw City is one of Michigan's National Historic Landmarks.

Web-sitings

by Kyle Kay Ripley, Reference Assistant, Library of Michigan

Michigan Historical Sites

Michigan Historical Markers

<http://www.michmarkers.com/default.htm>

National Historic Landmarks in Michigan

http://www.michigan.gov/hall/0,1607,7-160-17449_18638_20846—,00.html

Michigan Historic Sites: Lighthouses

<http://michsite.state.mi.us/Results.cfm?ParentID=5206>

Michigan State Historical Museum System

http://www.michigan.gov/hall/0,1607,7-160-17445_19273_19306—,00.html

Michigan Dept. of Transportation: Michigan's Historic Bridges

http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/1,1607,7-151-9620_11154_11188—,00.html

National Register of Historic Places in Michigan

<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/MI/state.html>

Michigan Highways: Historical Overview

http://www.michiganhighways.org/historical_overview.html

Michigan Historic Buildings

http://www.pioneer-michigan.com/Arts_and_Entertainment_Architecture_Historic_Buildings.html

Genealogy as History

compiled by Linda Neely, Library of Michigan Public Services

Searching one's genealogy often leads to an appreciation for history. For this reason, teachers may use genealogy to round out their schools' history curricula, and librarians must stand ready to assist in this effort. Below are some examples of how some librarians are using genealogy to enrich the studies of their patrons.

Kathy Wedyke, Director of Deckerville Public Library incorporates genealogy links on her library's Web page:

"Our library has a wealth of information that people living in other states and other countries would be interested in seeing. I did pages for Sanilac, Tuscola, Huron, St. Clair and Lapeer counties. I looked at a variety of sites that I could link to from our library site, such as historical societies, museums, family history Web sites, mailing lists, vital records, county Web sites, county census sites, county clerks, cemeteries, libraries, civil war sites, local newspapers, marriage and death records, local maps and obituaries. There is so much information on the Internet that I am always trying to update the Web site as much as I can."

Kathy also obtained permission to scan and provide several local histories and put up several message boards. The response to her Web site has been phenomenal, writes Kathy: "One of the unexpectedly enjoyable side effects of our Web site has been the many people from all over the world who have sent e-mails, have called, have written to me, or have visited our library after using our Web site." Visit Kathy's Web site at <http://www.deckervillelibrary.com> and check the links under Genealogy and Local History.

From Pamela Miller, Local History Librarian, White Cloud Community Library:

"The White Cloud Community Library history section and the Upper Elementary School presented a three-generation family tree and brief local history class as a part of National History Month. The students in the 5th- and 6th-grade classes were given a handout to begin their family tree. Several followed up with a trip to the local history section, where they were shown how to use the microfilm machine. It was stressed how important it is for these students to keep a journal of their journey through White Cloud Public School. They enjoyed seeing the superintendent thirty years prior in the yearbook.

The students showed much interest in the old murders and bank robberies. Our city has a rich history in the lumbering era. They perused through some of the antique books and magazines housed in the history section. The official wolf certificates and bounties and our own baseball team were a drawing point for the boys. Carbon letters from the Women of the KKK letterhead drew the girls' interest."

From Diane Jurich, Media Specialist, Lincoln Park Public Schools:

"It's helpful if your own family can be part of the local history unit. One of my cousins found an obituary of my great (great?) grandfather who was a founding father of Taylor, Michigan. The article describes the history of his and his wife's families and the era in which they lived, including what the territory looked like then. It really was weird to think of Indians and our ancestors in the same time frame, and it was difficult to envision that the Taylor of today was ever a lot of farmland.

During my student teaching many years ago, I used my husband as an example when we spoke of the Vietnam War. My husband was drafted, and both of my brothers had deferments. Demonstrating how my own family participated in historical events seems to help students better understand that their own generation is making history that they'll someday share with their children and grandchildren. I think it gives students a better sense of history when they can talk to someone who lived through the era they're studying.

Deciding what information to share with students always depends on their studies and sometimes their grade level. Sometimes the younger the student, the more interested they are and the more willing they are to delve further into history as they progress in their studies. I'm not sure what information I will share this year, as I am going from a single-school high school librarian to an elementary position for three elementary schools. We'll see what time and topics come up."

From Jill Coe, Local History and Genealogy Librarian, Public Libraries of Saginaw:

"At the Public Libraries of Saginaw, several area college professors and middle and high school teachers incorporate family history projects in their curricula and use the library as a critical resource for their students. For example, one English professor at Delta Community College holds class in our local history and genealogy collection at least three times throughout a given semester. Advance notice is given, and staff gladly renders the service of pulling material and presenting a brief history lesson to students. A Michigan history professor at the same college assigns a genealogy project and urges students to use our top-notch research aids and databases. Our staff enjoys helping students earn that 'A.' More importantly, learning is made possible because students use resources that validate their rich and varied personal histories that make up multicultural America. Genealogy is an entry point to many fields of inquiry and we invite and support our students as they discover this at our library."

Genealogical Publications: Suggestions for Creators and Publishers

by Tim Watters and Kyle Kay Ripley

Local genealogy and historical societies and affiliated individuals make great contributions to genealogical research by publishing their findings. Examples of their genealogical publications include biographical family histories that may include photos and copies of family documents, a reading of tombstone inscriptions from a cemetery with accompanying sexton's records, or an index to records in a courthouse or other public repository. The format and the arrangement of this material can be a challenge to the identification and cataloging of these publications.

The first page in a book is very important to the identification and cataloging process. Librarians call this the "title page," and it should clearly indicate the title of the book, the author, who it was published by and the date of publication. This is not a good place for slogans, photographs, acknowledgements or dedications because these can get mixed up with the title and who is responsible for the work. A concise title will describe what the book is about.

The author should be the name of the person or organization that is primarily responsible for the work. The word "by" should be used if the author created the information. The terms compiled, transcribed, assembled or edited should be used if the author's work was generated by one of those means. The title page should also indicate who published the work and the location of the publisher by city and state. Most importantly, including the year of publication is crucial for ease of identification.

Although they don't have to be exactly the same, it's good if the cover and the title page are similar. If they are completely different, it can be confusing to the reader. Spine titles can be an abbreviation of the title page, but also should have enough pertinent information to easily identify the publication on the shelf.

Page numbering needs to be consecutive. Start page one on the first page after the title page

and continue the sequence all the way to the last page. Starting the page numbers over again at different points in the book can be confusing to a reader trying to locate information again.

You may want to consider publishing two books if you have two different topics. For example, if you've written a genealogy of a family, you may want to publish an account of the history of the town where they lived separately. It will be easier for people to figure out what the book is about.

Creating an index is always a great help to users of your publication. Cemetery transcriptions are most useful if they are arranged by the way the graves are laid out so researchers can analyze the relationships among the deceased. Since the names will not be alphabetical, an index will help readers to quickly find out if the publication is of value to them. Records from a courthouse may be arranged by record or certificate number, or book and page number. A name index would also make this publication more user-friendly. Family histories can have persons of the same name mentioned in many places other than with their immediate family. These publications particularly benefit from having an index because of the variety of styles used in writing family histories.

Genealogy has become one of the top 10 popular hobbies in the United States. More and more publications are appearing in print and online. Following these suggestions will make your publication one that researchers will be glad they found.

Bi-Folkal Kits Provide Programming Ideas for Older Adults

by Andrew Wilson, SBPH Services and Data Analyst

If you are looking for programming ideas for senior adults, then consider some of the kits from Bi-Folkal Productions. There are 20 kits available on topics such as "School Days," "Summer Time," and "the Fifties."

Each Bi-Folkal kit contains a media presentation, music, poetry, humor and appropriate memorabilia. Every kit includes items to stimulate sight (photographs), smell (scratch and sniff cards), sound (music and sing-a-long songs), taste (recipes) and touch (items to pass around). All kits are designed to bring back memories and to encourage the sharing of experiences, memories and ideas.

Bi-Folkal also produces other kits such as Slideas (Slides + Ideas), which include slides and activities to present to groups; Actiphiles, which include skits and writing exercises; Visit Kits, for one-on-one interactions; and a Treasure Chest, which includes all if the Actiphiles and Slideas.

All of the Bi-Folkal activities can be used inter-generationally. This offers the older person an opportunity to share the value of personal experience and wisdom while offering a young person (or persons) a personal vision of history.

Two libraries in Michigan, the Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled and the Macomb County Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, have had great success with these products.

For more information on Bi-Folkal Kits contact:
Bi-Folkal Productions, Inc.
809 Williamson St.
Madison, WI 53703
1-800-568-5357
www.bifolkal.org

Macomb Library for the Blind and
Physically Handicapped
16480 Hall Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038-1132
586-286-1580
<http://www.libcoop.net/macspe>

Washtenaw County Library for the Blind
and Physically Disabled
4135 Washtenaw Ave
PO Box 8645
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8645
888-460-0680
http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/library/li_liblbpd.html

Current *Michigan History* Magazine Examines Michigan's Colorful Political Past

by Kristin Phillips, Michigan History magazine

During the 169 years since Michigan voters elected their first state governor, Michigan politicians have often been overshadowed by the state's other important contributions, like manufacturing, logging and mining. However, with a presidential election just weeks away, what better time to take a closer look at Michigan's collection of notable, talented and – on occasion – outlandish politicians?

The September/October 2004 issue of *Michigan History* features politicians, both the familiar and the little known, who have left their mark on the state, the nation and the world.

"The Great Lakes State has a history utterly rich in political legend and lore," said Dr. William Anderson, director of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries. "More than just a means for recalling memories, this issue of *Michigan History* offers readers an excellent opportunity to learn about our state's important role in the political world."

The 96-page issue, filled with approximately 150 photos, reveals such fascinating characters as the unconventional, fearless and often unpredictable governor from the U.P.; the political newcomer with the winning smile and trademark green

polka-dot tie who reformed the Democratic Party; and the singing congressman who added the words "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also in this special "politics" issue, readers will find an exciting photographic journey through Gerald Ford's 1976 campaign, as well as poignant political memories from two dozen *Michigan History* readers.

To find out more about this issue and read other fascinating political stories, visit *Michigan History* online at www.michiganhistorymagazine.com. To order *Michigan History*, telephone (800) 366-3703 or visit the magazine's Web site.

Michigan History has provided engaging articles about the state's past since 1917. Every issue tells exciting stories of Michigan people and places, is filled with bold illustrations and colorful photos, and highlights history-related books and places to visit. The magazine is produced six times a year, including an annual single-theme special issue.

Michigan History, the nation's most widely circulated state history magazine, is part of the Michigan Historical Center. The Michigan Historical Center is an agency of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries. Dedicated to enriching the quality of life for Michigan residents by providing access to information, preserving and promoting Michigan's heritage, and fostering cultural creativity, the department also includes the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, the Library of Michigan, the Michigan Film Office and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.





Alma Public Library Publishes Biography of Lumberman Ammi Wright

The Alma Public Library recently published *Built on Pines*, the story of Saginaw and Alma lumberman and capitalist Ammi Willard Wright. The 200-page book by historian and Alma High School teacher David McMacken is apparently the only full-length biography of a Michigan lumberman. Researched and written over 30 years, the book contains many illustrations, is footnoted and indexed, and includes five maps.

Although Wright made his fortune in Saginaw lumbering in the last half of the nineteenth century, he moved to Alma in the 1880s. Using his fortune on behalf of the small town, he established many businesses, built a large sanitarium and served as the key donor in founding Alma College.

“David’s book is an important addition, not just to the history of Saginaw and Alma, but to the history of the lumber era in Michigan,” said Alma Public Library Brian Dinwoody. “We are pleased to publish it.”

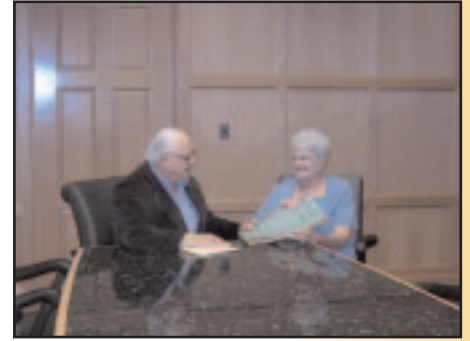
Built on Pines may be purchased for \$25 from the Alma Public Library. Sales of the book have paid for publishing expenses, and proceeds are going into the library’s building fund.

Clinton-Macomb Public Library Receives Important Donation

The Clinton-Macomb Public Library (CMPL) recently received an important donation from Clinton Township resident Shirley Champion. Champion donated a copy of the “Pageant of Progress,” a 353-page demographic and historical record of Macomb County, to Donald W. Green, president of the CMPL board of trustees. Published in 1928 by The Nellis Newspapers, which preceded the *Macomb Daily*, the “Pageant of Progress” is a greatly sought-after historical document. In the future CMPL hopes to digitize this copy and make it available on the library’s Web page.

“This is one of the most important printed records of Macomb County at this time in history. Every person who studies local history and genealogy will welcome this addition to CMPL,” said Green, also the chairman of the Clinton Township Historical Commission. “There are a very limited number of copies of the complete ‘Pageant of Progress,’ whether in private or library collections. We welcome this copy to Clinton-Macomb Public Library’s local history collection and thank the Champion family for this gift.”

Champion decided to donate the volume in honor of her late husband Phillip Champion, who owned the copy and was an active student of history.



Shirley Champion donates a copy of the Pageant of Progress to Donald W. Green, president of the CMPL board of trustees.

Paws for Reading at Chesterfield Township Library

The Chesterfield Township Library recently initiated "Paws for Reading," a one-of-a-kind program in Macomb County and the surrounding area that provides children with an opportunity to read to therapy dogs. Paws for Reading has become a very popular program, with over 170 children participating since the program's inception!

The dogs used in the Paws for Reading program were special therapy dogs certified by Therapy Dogs, Inc. and Therapy Dogs International, Inc. The 15-minute sessions were held in a cozy corner of the library's children's room, and every child that read to a therapy dog received a sticker with the dog's picture and was given a treat with which to reward the dog. The library provided the books, which naturally had the general theme of dogs or pets.

Parents, teachers, and tutors are continually commenting about the worthiness of such a program and its positive affect on children's attitude toward reading. It has been proven that reading to dogs is a very effective tool in helping children improve their reading skills, and to be physically and emotionally beneficial to them as well. Having the child stroke or pet the dog while reading decreases blood pressure, thereby increasing relaxation, which has the tendency to make the child forget the difficulty of the task of reading. The child begins to enjoy reading and even looks forward to it.



A child reads to a dog as part of "Paws for Reading" at Chesterfield Township Library.

Brighton District Library Presents Program for Vision-Impaired Nov. 10

Brighton District Library will host "Doing More With Less: Low Vision And You" on Wednesday, Nov. 10 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. A chance to learn about common eye problems and the free library services and other resources available to assist the vision-impaired with all aspects of daily living, the program will be also give attendees a hands-on opportunity to try and then purchase many useful items. It will be presented by Cheryl Terpening Frueh, an occupational therapist and owner of Mobile Eyes, and Margaret Wolfe from the Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Independence Village of Brighton Valley will provide refreshments for all to enjoy.

Everyone is welcome, and no registration is necessary. The library is located at 100 Library Drive in Brighton.

If you have a news item you would like to contribute, please contact Casey Kremers at 517-373-5578 or email: ckremers@michigan.gov.



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This publication is available in an alternative format: Braille or audio cassette. Please call 517-373-5614 for more information.

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